

## THE INTELLIGENCER.

Published Daily, Except Sunday, by  
Intelligencer Publishing Co.,

25 and 27 Fourteenth Street.

JOHN FREW, Pres. and Bus. Manager.

Terms: Per Year, by Mail, in Advance,  
Postage Prepaid.

Daily (6 Days Per Week) 1 Year—\$5.00

Daily, Six Months—2.50

Daily, Three Months—1.50

Daily, Two Days Per Week—3.00

Daily, Two Days Per Week—2.00

Daily, One Month—45

Weekly, One Year, in Advance—1.00

Weekly, Six Months—60

THE DAILY INTELLIGENCER is delivered

by carriers in Wheeling and ad-

jacent towns at 10 cents per week.

Persons wishing to subscribe to THE

DAILY INTELLIGENCER can do so

by sending in their orders to the In-

telligencer office on postal cards or

otherwise. They will be punctually

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Tributes of Respect and Obituary Notices

50 cents per inch.

Correspondence containing important

news solicited from every part of the

surrounding country.

Rejected communications will not be re-

turned unless accompanied by sufficient

postage.

(The INTELLIGENCER, embracing its

several editions, is entered in the Post-

office at Wheeling, W. Va., as second-

class matter.)

TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Editorial Rooms—823; Circulation Room—822

THE INTELLIGENCER.

WHEELING, FEBRUARY 28, 1900.

"Two Envelopes."

The Democratic papers that were

wont to facetiously inquire the where-

abouts of the prosperity that "was

talked about" have not been so eager

with their inquiries of late. And no

wonder. With labor employed all over

the country, and the only people idle

those who never did and never will

work, the false cry of the Democracy

has been most effectually hushed. Stories

like that from Paterson, New Jersey,

where five hundred wage earners

in one of the large mills received a vol-

untary increase of 5 per cent., are well

calculated to discredit the gloomy pes-

simism of the croaking Bryanites. The

employees at the mill referred to re-

ceived two envelopes last week. In

one envelope was the surprise in the

shape of the usual pay and a 5 per cent.

increase; in the other, the explanation.

This was simply that the company now

finds itself able to keep its promise of

sharing any prosperity that might

come to it with its workers; that trade

had improved and a 5 per cent. ad-

vance was made possible. The advance,

of which there had been no intimation

whatever, caused much rejoicing.

It is also stated that another large

concern in the same city, which em-

ploys several thousand hands, will take

similar action in increasing the wages

of its employees.

"Episodes like these," says the Amer-

ican Economist, "bringing joy to the

hearts of many thousands dependent

upon the wages paid, are characteris-

tic of the period of 'McKinley and

Prosperity.' They furnish an agree-

able and very instructive contrast to the

condition of things which existed dur-

ing that never-to-be-forgotten time

when the country was experiencing the

fruits of 'Cleveland and Tariff Re-

form.' Wage earners in those days

sometimes got two envelopes instead of

one, but the second envelope always

contained an unpleasant surprise in the

shape of a notice that 'in view of the

existing depression it has been found

necessary to reduce wages."

To find employers of labor volun-

tarily admitting their employees to a

share in their profits and their prosper-

ity is doubly pleasant and gratifying,

for it conclusively proves what has been

insistently disputed by free traders,

that protection operates alike to the ad-

vantage of wage payer and wage

earner."

Talking Again.

Mr. Bryan is talking again. We say

again, for wonderful to relate, he took

a surly rest after the meeting of the

national Democratic committee, which

sat down on his early convention

scheme. As usual, he musses things

up. He is not certain what the issues

of the campaign will be—from a Dem-

ocratic standpoint, although he tenta-

tively admits that there are three ques-

tions before the public—the money

question, trusts and imperialism. In

this he is wrong. The money question

is settled beyond any hope of resurrec-

tion. There is no such thing as imper-

ialism in this country, but there is a

faction which is attacking the honor of

the Nation, and advocating a cowardly

retreat from responsibilities that have

suddenly confronted it. As to trusts,

that is a matter in which both parties

have committed themselves, with the

difference that the Democratic party is

morbidly opposed to capital in any

form, while the Republican party draws

a distinction between unlawful and

proper combinations of capital.

Mr. Bryan committed himself when

denying that the free silver sentiment

was dying out, he said:

"No, it is not dying out, and the ed-

itors who continue to say so know bet-

ter. The action of the Republican

party in amending the currency bill

as a last resort, so as to revive the

promise of international bimetalism, is

a confession that the gold standard is

not satisfactory, and no Republican ed-

itor can explain that amendment ex-

cept by acknowledging that it is an at-

tempt to thrust fraud on the American

people."

We do not know of any greater fraud

than the Chicago platform, which

Bryan labored to thrust on the Amer-

ican people. There is no confession of

weakness in the promise of interna-

tional bimetalism. The Republican party

is merely acting in good faith, and

consistently carrying out the promises

made in the St. Louis platform. Bi-

metalism will never come unless it is

agreed to by all the commercial na-

tions of the earth. The statement that

the gold standard is not satisfactory

is one of the baldest untruths ever ut-

tered, and it is only necessary to refer

Mr. Bryan to the prominent leaders of

his own party to substantiate the as-

sertion. The Nebraska is in deeper

waters than he has ever before, and

we are afraid he will not be able

to swim out.

Depew on the Philippines.

Senator Depew, of New York, made

his first set speech in the United States

senate yesterday, and like Senator Bever-

idge, of Indiana, broke over the an-

cient customs of that body with re-

gard to new members, who are sup-

posed to be seen and not heard until

they become thoroughly seasoned. But

many traditions of this rather unemo-

tional branch of the government have

been violated of late, and it is well that

the barriers have been let down.

Senator Depew's speech was con-

fined to the resolution introduced by

Senator Beveridge, declaring the pur-

pose of the United States with refer-

ence to the Philippines, and also the

resolution introduced by Senator Bacon,

of Georgia, on the same subject. The

New York senator stated as his prom-

ises that the United States were in the

Philippines, and there to stay, by con-

quest and by treaty rights, and that

all which preceded the ratification of

the Paris treaty was an academic ques-

tion. After reviewing the war with

Spain and explaining how unforeseen

responsibilities were thrust upon the

Nation, Senator Depew directed his at-

tention to the argument of those op-

posed to the government policy in the

Pacific archipelago. "Many honest

minds," he said, "have been confused

by the supposed application of the con-

sent of the governed to the government

which Congress provides for new ter-

ritories or colonies, and that it is im-

possible to rule them except by the

usual territorial process until by right

they are admitted into the union as

states. Here again a study of the past

removes these difficulties. Jefferson

was the author of the Declaration of

Independence, and that is the one act

which he directed should be engraved

upon his tomb. He certainly knew the

breadth and limitations of his axioms.

The government which he organized for

the territory of Louisiana had every ele-

ment which has been denounced as des-

potism in the Philippines.

"The act of October 31, 1803, passed

by Congress and signed by Jefferson,

vested 'All military, civil and judicial

powers in such person or persons and

to be exercised in such manner as the

President of the United States should

direct."

"There was no consultation with the

inhabitants, no participation in their

government accorded them, and no

rights assured to them except 'The free

enjoyment of their liberty, property and

religion.' It is no answer to this pre-

cedent to say that because there were

only 30,000 white people in the ter-

ritory it was unnecessary to gain their

consent. The constitutional rights of

20,000 are as precious and as sacred as

the rights of 30,000,000. From 1803, when

this colonial and imperial government

was imposed upon Louisiana, until 1819,

when Florida was conquered, pur-

chased and ceded by Spain, was an ex-

traordinary time in which to discover a

vital blow at the Declaration of Independ-

ence and a deadly assault upon the con-

stitution of the United States."

Gronje's Surrender.

The world has never been known to

have looked upon true courage with-

out admiration. When the din of bat-

tle is on and the shouts of the warriors

are heard, it is not so hard to follow,

nay, even lead, the leaders when brave-

ry becomes a frenzy. It is quite an-

other thing, however, to be hemmed in

without the slightest possible chance

of escape and face to face with death.

That requires courage—that is, to know

your danger and confront it, while at

the same time you secretly wish you

were far away. Such was the situation

of the brave General Gronje and his

Boer forces when encompassed by Gen-

eral Roberts. Their attitude has been

of the most heroic character, and their

valor challenged the admiration of their

enemies. The surrender of the

Boer general and his forces carries

with it no humiliation, and to the Brit-

ish it is a victory that is nearly as

costly as a defeat. While it is a serious

reverse for the Transvaalers it must

not be supposed that they are near the

end of their resources. The fighting

that is to come before they will sub-

mit, unless peace can be secured with

honor to them, will be far more bloody

than has yet been witnessed.

The London papers make much of

the capitulation of Gronje, and refer to

its significance as occurring on the an-

niversary of "Majuba Hill," affecting

to believe that that awful slaughter

has been avenged. There is no comparison

between the two engagements, except

the similarity of the dates. The Brit-

ish have nothing to crow over and the

Boers have no reason to feel humili-

ated.

The Pittsburgh Times, in a good-

natured, chaffing manner, affects to

believe that this community is much

grieved by the conduct of Admiral

Dewey when he was the guest of the

city last week. The people were really

more put out about the horrible weather

than any act of exclusiveness on the

part of the hero of Manila bay.

Marcus Daly, who was accused by

Senator Clark, of Montana, as being

the Uriah Heep of all his troubles, has

given a categorical denial to all the

accusations made against him. It is

now up to Clark to say that he always

did love Daly.

Altdorf is championing the cause of

Macrum. This is about the worst

thing that could have happened to the

ex-consul.

Dingley's successor in the house of

representatives is not measuring up to

the standard of Maine Republicans.

Good-bye, February! We trust that

March will smile and be pleasant.

STATE PRESS CLEANINGS.

The gathering in Wheeling last week

furnished an opportunity for all the

politicians of the state to get together

and exchange views and ideas. From

the number of candidates on the ground

it was plain to be seen that the Re-

publicans all anticipate a victory this

year. No less than six candidates for

auditor were seen together in one room,

and the candidates for other places on

the ticket were quite numerous. One

Democrat who happened to be on the

ground was heard to inquire whether it

was a "Dewey" meeting or a Republi-

can meeting. He was promptly in-

formed that all public meetings these

days are Republican meetings.—

Charleston Mail-Tribune.

A Roane county disciple of Ananias

reports that a Spencer laborer turned